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Sportsmen's Connection

May 2016

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



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MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- 1.2.3.Go...
- Anglers United
- AZ Antelope Foundation

Greetings all. In this edition of our monthly enews, I'm going to pose a number of statements, and simply want you to ponder the issue(s).

So, What Would You Do ?

- The Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club and others want to add more rules, regulations and restrictions to the North Rim via a National Monument.

- That proposed monument, the Grand Canyon Watershed is evidently on the short list of the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

- Should the President establish this monument via the Antiquities Act, 1.7 million acres will be forever changed, including Game Management Units 12A & B, 13A, and portions of 9.

- Many of these same groups have sued the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) on the Mexican wolf recovery plan, and also believe wolves north of I-40 are a good thing.

- The same players have now sued the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to eliminate off road game retrieval in the Kaibab National Forest.

- The Rewilding Institute is advocating the three C's...Cores, Corridors, and Carnivores.
<http://rewilding.org/rewildit/what-is-rewilding/>

- The Humane Society of the United States is posturing to curtail mountain lion hunting in Arizona. Click [HERE](#) to read the recent response from AZGFD to the HSUS

- The Cloud Foundation is advocating for a Burro Preserve of 1 million acres in the Black Mountains near Kingman.
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/faT-u5QaISg>

- AZ BASS Federation Nation
- AZ Big Game Super Raffle
- AZ Bowhunters Association
- AZ Catfish Conservation Association
- AZ Chapter of NWTF
- AZ Chapter of SCI
- AZ Council of TU
- AZ Deer Association
- AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
- AZ Elk Society
- AZ Flycasters Club
- AZ Houndsmen's Association
- AZ Outdoor Sports
- Back Country Hunters & Anglers
- Coconino Sportsmen
- Mohave Sportsman Club
- Outdoor Experience 4 All
- South Eastern AZ Sportsmen Club
- SRT Outdoors Inc
- The Bass Federation Arizona
- The Ryan Thomas Foundation
- TRCP
- White Mountain Fly Fishing Club
- White Mountain Lakes Foundation
- Xtreme Predator Callers

Affiliate Members:

- Aircomm

- The head of the Cloud Foundation was recently named to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.

- The National Park Service (NPS) is considering a sharpshooting option for the House Rock bison herd on the North Rim.

- The USFWS is considering access closures on Lake Havasu.

- The BLM is assessing if and where recreational shooting should be allowed for the Sonoran Desert National Monument.

- The NPS and Bureau of Reclamation are considering how to handle and what to do with the Lees Ferry trout.

- Last year the WildEarth Guardians had 5000 people sign on to a letter supporting Congressional funding for "Properly taking care—and even removing—hundreds of thousands of road miles" in our National Forests.

- There is an AZ Senate Committee "studying" the merits of transferring Federal Public lands, BLM & USFS, to the state.

If you're a sportsman or woman in Arizona, this is a daunting and frankly depressing list of issues.

If you were lucky enough to draw an elk or antelope tag this fall, congratulations and enjoy your hunt!

If you don't have time to get engaged, get involved, write a letter or make a phone call, know this: many of the groups listed above are fighting tooth and nail to stop what you love to do.

Your freedom to hunt, fish, shoot, ride, explore and watch may only be marginalized now, but our kids and grandkids may not get to enjoy any of it, or at the minimum, a lot less than we did.

So, **What Will You Do ?**

Yours in Conservation,

Jim Unmacht
President

Another Grant Program Success

The AZSFWC License Plate Grant program provided funding for the Trout in the Classroom program. The 2015 - 2016 program has been deemed to be a major success with expansion of the program from 3 to a total of 17 schools participating. Twenty-three volunteers were involved in supporting the schools and



teachers in addition to support from the Arizona Game and Fish Department Fisheries Branch. Feedback from the students and teachers has been exceedingly positive. Read more about the program [HERE](#) in an article published recently in the Arizona Wildlife News magazine.

**Calendar - Our Member Groups Are Very Busy!
Please support their activities.**

Fundraising Banquet

Arizona Deer Association
Saturday May 21, 2016



Rustlers Rooste

8383 S. 48th St. • Phoenix, AZ 85044

Waterhole 4:00 PM • Dinner 6:00 PM



Don't miss this event!

Come on out for a fun evening and support conservation efforts for deer

**Live & Silent Auctions
Raffles
Hunts and Outdoor Gear**

**Live Auction of State of Arizona Special Tags
for Whitetail, & Mule Deer
Unique Artwork, Vacation Trips,
Optics, Firearms, and Jewelry**



Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available online at our website.

If you attended one of our previous banquets, you and your friends know how important the funds we raise are to deer conservation in our state. These funds enable the ADA to invest in many projects and activities to benefit whitetail and mule deer and this event promises to be another fun-filled occasion

Individual tickets—\$60 Tables of 10—\$600

Enhanced Tables of 10—\$700 with \$200 of raffle tickets and 10 drink tickets

If you would like to make a donation of art, jewelry, hunting, fishing and camping gear, silent auction items, trips, gift cards, please contact us at 480-854-8950. All donations are tax deductible.

Live Auction Items

Fishing trip at Island Point Lodge in Petersburg, Alaska

Commissioner Mule Deer Special Tag Season 2016-2017

Tactical Team building package for up to 30 participants. Four (4) hours of Mission Objective Scenarios, Rental gear, unlimited Paintless Paintball Ammo. The most experiential training available today in Arizona!

Mount Carmel Safaris Hunt

Lake Powel Houseboat - 5 days

Bronze Deer by Ken Rowe

Commissioner Whitetail Deer Special Tag Season 2016-2017

AR Rifle

Charcoal AKC 6-week old lab puppy

Romantic Date night package - Sunset Helicopter Ride, Grand Hotel for one night and dinner.

Antler Lamp

Diamondbacks Box package - 4 seats behind home plate, Drinks and Food included

Stay at Cherry Creek Lodge

ADA Life Membership

VIP table for the 2017 ADA Banquet

[Visit the ADA website to purchase your tickets!!!](#)

[Click here](#)



Buck Springs Wildlife

Habitat Work Project

JUNE 11-12, 2016

Work to be Done:

Riparian Restoration

Tree Thinning

Fence Removal

Exclosure Maintenance

Meadow Log Fence



The Arizona Elk Society will be providing meals and refreshments for the Project. Dinner will be served Friday night, Breakfast Lunch and Dinner on Saturday and Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday.

Camp Location:

This years camp will be at Dane Springs. From West Phoenix – Take I-17 North to hwy 260 (Camp Verde). Go east 36 miles to Hwy 87 turn North (left) 21 miles to FR95 turn south (right). Watch for signs at FR96. Follow signs.

Items to Bring: Gloves, Long Sleeve Shirts, Hat, Sunscreen. Be prepared for cool mornings and possible rain. Old clothes are recommended. Tools and safety glasses will be provided.

Space will be available for vehicle, tent and RV camping. Porta Johns and wash stations will be available in camp.

NOTE: We are a family orientated organization, however projects are potentially dangerous working with barbed wire, saws, tools and vehicles. Kids under 18 need to be supervised by an adult.

PLEASE RSVP ONLINE

For information and map visit the Arizona Elk Society Web Site.

www.arizonaelksociety.org

or contact Tom Schorr - tomschorr@arizonaelksociety.org

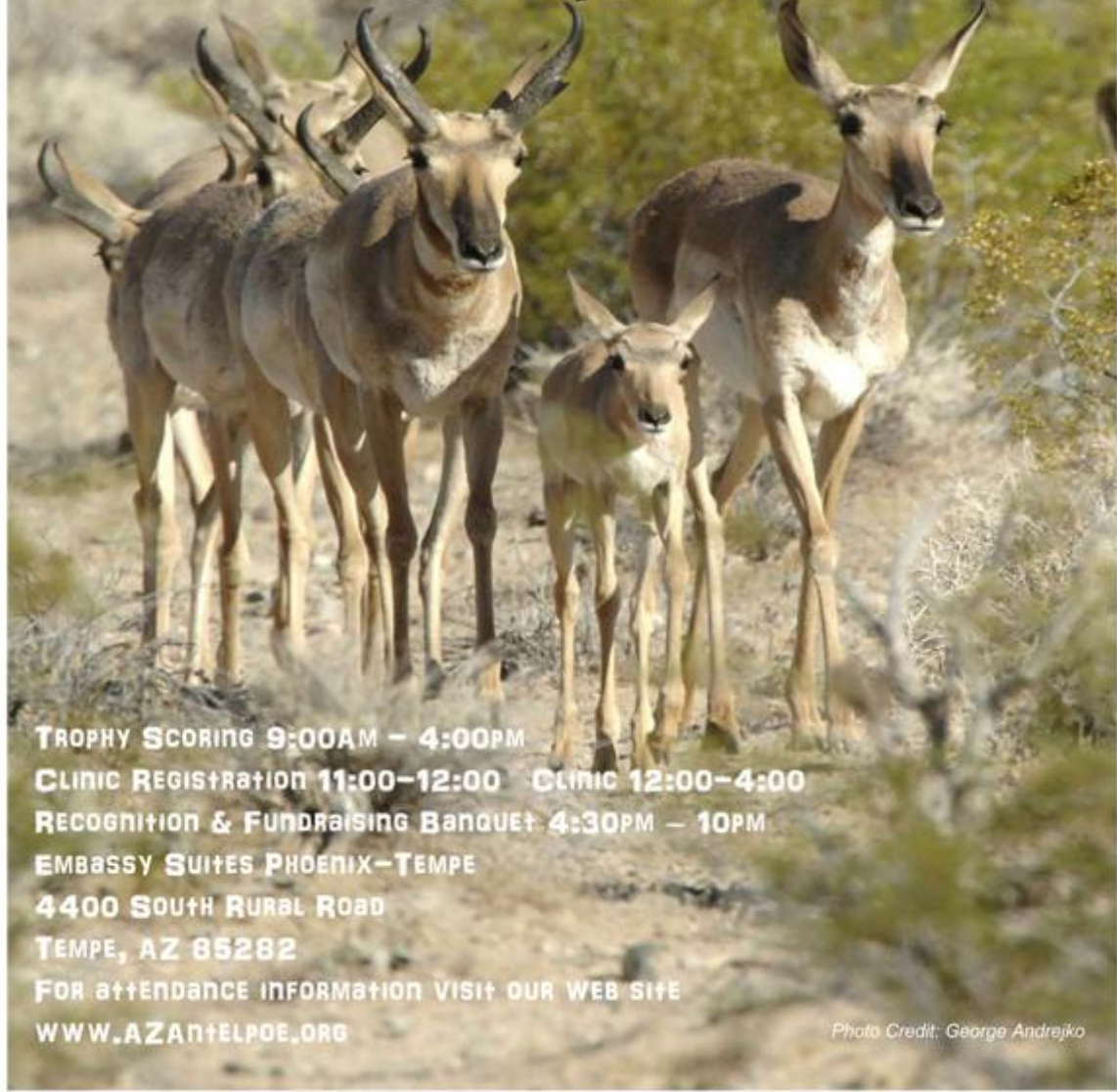
ARIZONA ANTELOPE FOUNDATION

HUNTER CLINIC

TROPHY SCORING

PRONGHORN RECOGNITION & FUNDRAISING BANQUET

JUNE 18, 2016



TROPHY SCORING 9:00AM - 4:00PM

CLINIC REGISTRATION 11:00-12:00 CLINIC 12:00-4:00

RECOGNITION & FUNDRAISING BANQUET 4:30PM - 10PM

EMBASSY SUITES PHOENIX-TEMPE

4400 SOUTH RURAL ROAD

TEMPE, AZ 85282

FOR ATTENDANCE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEB SITE

WWW.AZANTELOPE.ORG

Photo Credit: George Andrejko

AZSCI 41st

Annual Banquet

Banquet Date June 18, 2016

Loews Ventana Canyon Resort!

Doors open at 4:00 PM, dinner at 6:00 PM Tickets are
\$70.00 each or \$130.00 per couple

Corporate tables are \$700.00 for seating of 10

For more information contact
Bobby Boido (520) 490-8367 Or
Gilbert Quintana (520) 971-6213

**National Wild Turkey Federation's
Valley Longbeard Chapter
21st Annual Hunting Heritage Banquet**

**SAVE THE DATE
JULY 9, 2016**

Hilton Phoenix Airport
2435 S. 47th Street
Phoenix, AZ

**Doors open at 5:00 P.M.
Dinner at 6:00 PM.**

- **EXCITING Games, Auctions, and Raffles!**
- **Great Dinner and Drinks!**
- **Special gifts and raffles for JAKES! (Kids)**
- **Fun for the whole family!**



**For Information & Reservations:
Call**

**Rich Williams at 602-881-7292; Howard Frampton at 602-692-2911;
Scott Snarey at 602-996-4679**

Did you know: AZSFWC reaches over 20,000 recipients with its E-newsletter?

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Conservation License Plates - Get yours today!



Look at our beautiful license plate. By purchasing this plate you will be making a contribution to Arizona's wildlife and wildlife habitat. Seventeen dollars (\$17) of each twenty-five (\$25) special license fee will go to AZSFWC's conservation fund. AZSFWC will review and approve all grants from the special license plate program revenues. These grants will fund important outdoor

recreational and educational opportunities and on-the-ground wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement projects.

These plates can be purchased online and can also be personalized. To order an AZSFWC Conservation License Plate go to:

<http://www.servicearizona.com>

Click on "Personalized/Specialty Plates" then if you wish to personalize it, check its availability. Once you have verified the availability of your personalization, or if you only want to order the AZSFWC Conservation Special Plate, click on "Order My Plate". Order your plate as a sequential shelf plate for \$25.00 per year or as a personalized plate for \$50.00 per year.

Here is another helpful link when ordering your special license plate. You can have many of your questions answered here:

<https://servicearizona.com/webapp/vehicle/plates/showInfoPage.do>

The AZSFWC Conservation Plate gives all Arizonan's an opportunity to contribute to programs that benefit our wild creatures.

Step up and support "Wild Arizona".

Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation is a 501-c-3 not-for-profit organization whose mission is to educate and inform sportsmen, wildlife conservation organizations throughout the state and the public at large on important issues related to wildlife and wildlife habitat and to provide, via grants or other sources, funding to conserve Arizona's wildlife populations through habitat enhancement initiatives. The AZSFWC is responsible for managing the conservation license plate program (Wildlife Conservation Habitat Fund). The fund is derived from the sale of wildlife conservation license plates and member organizations as well as non-member organizations are eligible to apply for those funds.

